The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Tuesday, December 1, 1730.

To the Author of the Weekly Journal.

SIR, *Amsterdam, Nov.* 7, 1730.

HERE are a good Number of *British* Subjects of us in this opulent and happy City, who are much obliged to you, both for the Weekly Entertainment you give us, and for the Service your Endeavours may be of to your Country in general. The Care of our TRADE is so material and National a Point, that every honest thinking *Briton* cannot but have it seriously at Heart; and we hope your *Journal* of *Sept.* 26 last, will move the Compassion of our Legislature in Behalf of the unfortunate *Shopkeepers* and *Traders at Home*, whose truly deplorable Condition your ingenious publick spirited Correspondent so pathetically sets forth. Their Case, however, is not altogether desperate, since the Means for Re-Relief are obvious and easy, and cannot escape the Notice and Penetration of so many worthy honest Patriots as now sit in our House of Commons. But whether what I am now to acquaint with, admits of Redress, or at least, will meet with any; Time, and the Views of those Gentlemen at the Helm, can only inform us.

Tho' private Considerations and the Circumstances of our Affairs, oblige us to live Abroad, we are still *Englishmen*; tho' we have chang'd the Air, we have not forgot our Duty, or lost our Affection to our Country; and it is with no small Mortification that we see the *British* Trade so changed here from what it was before the *Treaty of Hanover*.

Before that never to be forgotten Treaty, we often saw 3 or 400 *British* Ships here at once, many of them stout Fregats, that did us Honour, and commanded Respect to our Nation. These Fregats were always freighted for the *Mediterranean* or *Levant* by *Dutch* Merchants, who thought their Goods safer in *English* Bottoms, under the single Protection of a Pass, than in their own 50 Gun Ships, and that it was cheaper to freight our Ships, than to fit out their own for Fighting and Trading. This was their Case before the *Peace* that was made for them with the *Algerines*, about the Time the *States General* acceded to the *Treaty of Hanover*.

Thus many of our Sailors got Bread, when any Stagnation in other Branches of Trade, left no Business at Home; the Captains of those Fregats got handsome Fortunes under the *Dutch*, to spend at Leisure in *England*; for none of them settled here. Our Shipwrights, &c. got also good Bread, who, I fear, are now but slenderly enough employed. But this is not all:

In the Placaert published by the *States* in 1652, for securing the *Mediterranean* Trade, it was ordered, That no Ship should go into that Sea under 180 Casts Burden, 24 Guns of 4 Pound Ball, and 50 Men; That they should not sail under 2 together, to be in a Condition to oppose the *Barbary Rovers*; That in their Return, they should wait for one another at *Venice*, *Zante*, *Leghorn*, and return in a Body to *Holland*. This made their Voyages very tedious, their Profits were ate up by Seamens Wages, Provisions, *&c.* Notwithstanding all these Precautions, and that, finding their Ships too weak, they built them stronger, and mounted 'em with 40 or 50 Guns; yet all did not save them from the *Moors*; and nothing was more common than to see poor Women begging Money from Door to Door, to relieve their Husbands, *&c.* from Slavery. But the Case is now quite altered; every Cobler trades to the *Levant*; and the *Dutch* rival, if not out-do us, in this Trade, since the Peace with th' *Algerines*, wherein before they never had any Hopes of equalling us, even tho' they fell at last on the Method of freighting our Ships. Whether it was the Interest of *Britain* to let her Ships and Seamen be employ'd that way, I shall not say; but I'm pretty sure, that the *Dutch* Trade to the *Levant* was not near so prejudicial to her, as the way they now carry it on.

Instead of our beautiful tall Ships which made once a Figure here, we hardly see any thing but a few Colliers, and *Scots* or *Irish* Barques, who come rather to *Smuggle* than *Trade*. The Cargo these Barques bring over, are of very little Advantage to *Britain*, and some of them, I believe, very detrimental to her; but what they carry back, may perhaps require your Attention. 'Tis a Custom for several Scots Barks to clear out hence for *Norway*, tho' I believe they never go there, the Meaning is plain, and we may guess what Merchandice they carry: If Velvets, Brocades, rich Silks, fine

Laces,

Laces, &c. are not so proper for a *Scots* as an *English* Market, yet they may be *Run* upon us, to the Destruction of our own fair Traders and Manufacturers; which has not a little contributed to their Misfortunes This Practice, if only lookt into, will make a great Hole in the Balance of *L.* 1,300,000, which th' Author of *The Importance of the Ostend Company considered*, roundly asserts we draw yearly by our Trade with *Holland*. But this Assertion I shall examine on another Occasion.

The *Irish* Barques are still more pernicious to us than the *Scots*. Mr. *Janicon*, Author of *The present State of the Republic of the United Provinces*, publish'd last Year, says the *Dutch* drive a far greater Trade with *Ireland* than *Scotland*; where they send all Sort of Holland, printed Linen, wrought Silk, Laces, Spiceries, Drugs, dying Stuffs, Delft Ware, Lintseed, Flax, &c. They take from *Ireland*, Frizes, Rateens, coarse Bags, Hides and Tallow, Stockings, Sailors Caps, very few of which are worn in *Holland*; so that the Balance of Trade must surely be against the *Irish*, if they have not another way to save themselves. The *Dutch* 4 Years ago laid an exorbitant Duty of 16 *G.* 15 *St.* on every 300 Wt. of *Irish* Butter, which almost is a Prohibition; and 2 or 3 Years before they actually prohibite the Importation of *Irish* Beef; which are considerable Articles of the *Irish* Trade. If the *Dutch* did this, to force the *Irish* to bring over great Quantities of their Wool to pay for the rich Goods they purchase here, which their Cargoes never can do, they did like Men of Sense and good Patriots; for the *Holland* Wool is good for little, nor is there any Quantity of it; and without a Supply, their flourishing Manufactures at *Leyden*, &c, would soon go to Ruin. That this was the View of the *Dutch*, I am well perswaded; for tho' they need much greater Quantities of Beef and Butter for their Ships than the Country affords, and that no Nation can serve them more abundantly, or cheaper than the *Irish*; yet they chuse to take live Cattle from *Denmark* or *Jutland*, and Butter from *France*, whereon they lay but 10 *d.* the Hundred Duty. Nothing then but their Wool could prevent the *Irish* Ruin by a *Dutch* Trade, or smuggling into *England*, as they return home, the Goods they buy here in Prejudice of our own Manufactures and *East India Company*.

It is a Custom among Masters of Ships, in signing the Bills of Loading they take in in *Spain*, to call Pieces of Eight *White Limons*; and I am assur'd that it is as usual for the Merchants here, in writing to their Correspondents in Ireland for *Wool*, to call it *Butter*; and I am also told it is ingeniously screwed down into Casks, and shipp'd off for Butter, by the Connivance, no doubt, of the Custom-house Officers.

Roterdam drives also a strong Trade with *Ireland*, which has sent there 150 Sail yearly, loaden with the same Merchandice; for it is morally impossible for the *Dutch*, without *British* and *Irish* Wool, notwithstanding the Supplies they get from *Lubeck* and other Places in *Germany*, to furnish the 20th Part of the Manufactures they send to all Parts of the World. If it be objected, That the *Dutch* take a deal of Cloths from us, with which they trade to Foreign Markets; let us consider what Cloths they take, and whether it would not be more for our Interest to prohibite their Exportation to *Holland*. They take none of our Cloths dy'd in one Colour, as Blacks, Scarlets, Blues, &c. tho' Woollen Manufactures are the considerablest Branch of the *Dutch* Trade to the *Mediterranean* and *Levant*, where they send Greens, Purples, Violets, Crimsons, Scarlets, &c. carried thither in vast Quantities without Fear of the *Algerines*, or the Expence of freighting our Ships. And tho' their Trade to *Smirna* and *Constantinople* is very great in this Article; yet 'twould be more so in the latter Place, if the *English* did not send too much of their own Manufacture there. This is lookt on as an unpardonable Crime in us, which the *Dutch* can take notice of. What *English* Cloths the *Dutch* send to the *Mediterranean*, come over white from *England*, and so much the worse for our Dyers; so that what between the Wool-runners and the Dyers of *Leyden*, Thousands of our Tradesmen are reduc'd to a Morsel of Bread.

If the *Dutch* could be kept from our Wool, they behoved to take our Manufactures in any Colours we pleased; or, which is better for us, we would send them ourselves to the same Markets to which the *Dutch* now carry them, so much to their own Profit and our Loss.

The Placaerts published by the *States* for preserving the Herring Fishery, expressly forbid, on severest Penalties, all Pilots, Coopers, &c. to exercise their Functions in Foreign Countries, or to sell Materials; and all Merchants or Shipwrights, to sell any Buss to *Strangers*: By which Word they principally mean the *English*. Whether these Placaerts savour of Insult, at the same time that they take these very Herrings in the *British Coast*, I will not determine; but I think we ought not to disdain to follow their Example, in falling upon Measures to make the best of those Branches of our Trade which no Nation can take from us, but by an unaccountable

able Neglect, or ſomething worſe, in ourſelves.

As to the reſt of our Manufactures, and Goods, they are moſtly a Drug here; but our Gold and Silver are as plenty as in *London*; of which the *Jews* make vaſt Advantage, by diminiſhing its Value by a Liquor, without defacing the Coin, and then ſending it back to us for more Specie to exerciſe their Knavery upon. In ſhort, *Sir*, there are ſo many Articles in our Commerce that demand our Attention, that it were tedious to repete 'em. Every Man in the Government here, by a Principle and National Love, glories in doing his beſt for *Father-Landt*, an endearing and noble Expreſſion for their *Native Country*: And I preſume it will be no Diſhonour to our Miniſters, to imitate them in what is ſo worthy of Imitation. *I am, Sir, &c.*

PEREGRINE ENGLISH.

Wye's Letter Verbatim, London, Nov. 26.

No Foreign Mails this Poſt.

THE Rev. Mr. Tuff we hear is preſented by the Duke of Bedford, to the Rectory of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, vacant by the Death of the Hon. and Rev. Lumley Lloyd; That the Rev. Dr. Vernon, Chaplain to his Grace the Duke of Rutland, will, aſſoon as Bloomsbury Church is conſecrated, have Inſtitution and Induction, as Rector of the ſaid Church; and that Mr. Capper will be choſen Lecturer.

Yeſterday one of his Majeſty's Meſſengers arrived at Court, from the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Cheſterfield at the Hague; whence are Letters intimating, as if their High Mightineſſes were under ſome Uneaſineſs, at an extraordinary Council of War, which the King of Pruſſia lately held; at the breaking up of which his Majeſty ſent Couriers to the Governor of Weſel, Meurs, Gilder, and all the other Places on the Frontiers of the Provinces of Holland. Mean time we hope to have the good News of the Reconciliation of the King of Pruſſia to the Prince Royal his Son confirmed, but not on that Condition, as ſome intimate, and which is worthy of Remark: His Majeſty, as the laſt Letters from Berlin aſſured, had ſent freſh Orders to his Miniſter at Warſaw, to be aſſiduous in the Affair of the Proteſtants of Poland, and to inſiſt peremptorily on a ſpeedy Redreſs of their Grievances.

The Lighterman mentioned in our laſt to be committed to Newgate, on Account of the threatning Letter ſent to Mr. Meriot Attorney at Law, is named Green, and is double fettered. We hav ſeveral Accounts of more threatning Letters t have been ſent ſince Saturday laſt; particulary to Mr. Cholmondley the Bookbinder in the Strand, containing likewiſe groſs and ſcandalous Reflexions on his Majeſty's Proclamation, &c. The Lady Betty Germains having had one of the ſaid Letters ſent to her, at her Houſe in St. James's Square, a File of Muſqueteers is ordered to be poſted there every Night. We are informed from Warwick, That on Sunday laſt that Town was put into great Conſternation, on Account of the following Letter being thrown into the Houſe of Mr. Ward, a rich Mercer of that Place, which was the firſt that has been heard of there, or in the County, viz.

" Mr. Thomas Ward, Sir, If you value your Eaſe, " and Safety of your Houſe and Goods, you muſt " ſend 10 Guineas to the Croſs in Hand, in Bam- " bury Road, a little on this Side Oately Wood, " there to be laid on the Bottom of the Poſt, and " covered with Dirt; otherwiſe you muſt expect " to be ſerved, as other obſtinate People have been " before you: You being the firſt we have ſent to " in thoſe Parts, if we are diſappointed, we all " ſwear by G-d, you ſhall be made the firſt Ex- " ample, for the reſt. You muſt ſend the Money " the 21ſt Inſt. November; if ſo, it ſhall be laſt " Time we ſhall trouble you. Mean while it is believed, that ſome fictitious Accounts have been given, relating to the Affair of the Incendiaries; and as to what has been reported of their ſetting Fire to the Out houſes of Mr. Field at Stroudwater in Glocesterſhire, it is now aſſured that the ſame happened by the Careleſneſs of the Servants.

There was a Meeting this Day of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council; but nothing was done therein touching the Practices of the Incendiaries, as was expected. They voted Thanks to the late Lord Mayor for his prudent and impartial Conduct in his Diſcharge of that high Office.

On Monday laſt died the Relict of the late Rt. Rev. Dr. Talbot, Biſhop of Durham; as did this Day Gabriel Ferbourdin Eſq; an eminent Italian and Spaniſh Miniſter of this City.

We have an Account of the Arrival at Seville of Meſſ. Stert and Goddard, the Britiſh Commiſſaries.

'Tis ſaid a Proclamation is ordered to be iſſued for calling of the Parliament to ſit for the Diſpatch of Buſineſs the 12th or 14th of January next.

From

From the Daily Post-Boy, Nov. 25.

Paris, Oct. 30. The Count de Maurepas, Secretary of the Navy, has, in pursuance of the Directions he received from the Cardinal de Fleury, issued fresh Orders for putting the Navy of this Kingdom into a good Plight, for which the necessary Funds are actually settled.

Vienna, Oct. 24. If our Information be true, there is a Project upon the Carpet, which, how disagreeable soever it may be elsewhere, will go near to bring hither the Duke of Liria from Moscow. But in all Events, this Court is resolved to be prepared, and has therefore issued Orders for augmenting the Imperial Troops with 15,000 Men.

It is written from Berlin, that the King of Prussia designs to form an Army of 30,000 Men upon the Elve early in the Spring. This News will startle some Courts of Germany.

From the Evening Posts, Nov. 26.

Hague, Nov. 30. Private Letters from Berlin inform us, that the K. of Prussia had held an Extraordinary Council of War a few Leagues from Wusterhausen, to which his Majesty ordered General Schulemburgh and three other Generals to be summoned, besides the usual Members, and Notice to be given them in their Summons, that it was to consider of some special and important Affair. And at the breaking up of this Council, his Majesty sent Couriers to the Governors of Wesel, Meurs, Gelder, and all his other Places upon the Frontiers of these Provinces, to set Men to Work upon the Fortifications Night and Day, notwithstanding the Winter, and even (which is not his Majesty's ordinary Stile) without sparing for any Cost. These Advices being confirmed by Letters from Mynheer Ginkel, their High Mightinesses Minister at the Court of Prussia, have occasioned no little Uneasiness here, and 'tis thought will accelerate the Augmentation of the Forces of the State. Mean while their H. Mightinesses Deputies have had a Conference with the Earl of Chesterfield, Ambassador of G. Britain; and all things seem to portend a War.

London, Nov. 26. We hear a solemn Embassy will shortly be sent to the Court of Prussia.

Last Tuesday the Duke of Newcastle and the Ld Harrington took the Oaths, to qualify themselves for the Office of conjunct Keepers of his Majesty's Signet in Scotland.

S. S. Stock, 103, 1 half.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

¶¶¶ There is to be exposed to Sale by publick voluntary Roup, on Monday the 21st Day of December Inst. betwixt the Hours of 2 & 4 after Noon, in the House of William Gray Vintner; A BREWERY, with a Draw well and several other Conveniencies, and some Dwelling-houses in good Repair; lying on the East-side of the College wynd. The Progress, Rental, and Conditions of Roup, are to be seen in the Hands of *Andrew Chalmer* Writer, at his House in Forrester's Wynd. There are also some Masking fatts to be sold, either separately, or together with the Brewery. And if any Person has a mind for them, or for the Brewery, &c. the Proprietor will treat with them any Time before the Roup.

¶¶¶ That there is a *MILL for Dressing of Lint* erected at Drygrange, upon the Foot of the Water of Leeder, in the Shire of Roxburgh, by William Millar Wright at the Wind-mill of Edinburgh; which breaks and switches to great Perfection, without Loss of the Lint so much as when it is done by Hands, to the Satisfaction of all the Neighbourhod who have wrought Lint there this Season. 'Tis computed that she is capable to dress a Stone of Lint in three Hours, which is done for Two Shillings sterl.

¶¶¶ The Court of DIRECTORS of the *BANK OF SCOTLAND*, taking into their Consideration the Inconveniency and Loss that has happened to the BANK in particular, and to the whole *Country* in general, by repeted Runs made on the BANK for some Years past, without any just Ground or Reason: Have (for preventing such Inconvenience and Loss for the future, and for rendring the BANK more useful to the *Country*) Resolved, That all the Company's Notes for Circulation, of *Five Pounds Sterl.* and above, to be hereafter issued, shall be conceived in a Form and of a Tenor, different from that of their former Notes, which is to be seen at the Bank Office: But that the Company's Notes of *Twenty Shillings sterl.* shall continue to be issued of the same Tenor as formerly.

Exchequer, Nov. 19, 1730.

Notice is hereby given, by Order of the Right Honourable the BARONS OF EXCHEQUER, That they have Adjourned the Sale of the Arrears or Rests of the Estate of *William* late Earl of *Seaforth* to the Third Day of February next 1731, in th'EXCHEQUER COURT, at Twelve of the Clock. Particulars whereof, and of the Terms of Sale, are to be seen in the Hands of the Deputy-Remembrancer. *W. BOWLES.* D. R. R.

¶¶¶ That the Lands of GRANGE-MUIR, with the Mansion-house, Yards, Dovecoat, and Office-houses; all lying in the Parish of Anstruther Easter, and Sheriffdom of Fife: Are to be exposed to publick Roup, within John's Coffeehouse in Edinburgh, upon the TWENTIEHT Day of January next, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, by the Trustees for ROBERT WEEMYS of Grange-muir and his Creditors. The Rental of the Lands, Progress of the Writs, and Conditions of Sale, are to be seen in the Hands of GEORGE BOSWELL Writer in Edinburgh, at his Writing-chamber in the Parliament close.

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